

10/510912

**DECLARATION AND
POWER OF ATTORNEY
FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN
PATENT APPLICATION
(37 CFR 1.63)**

Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)))

Attorney Docket Number	21080
First Named Inventor	Flores, Osvaldo A. et al.
<i>COMPLETE IF KNOWN</i>	
Application Number	
Filing Date	
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

HEPATITIS C VIRUS ASSAY SYSTEMS

(Title of the Invention)

the specification of which

bears the Attorney Docket Number and Title of the Invention noted above

OR

is attached hereto

OR

was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) 04/11/2003 as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number PCT/US03/12509 and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY) (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the content
amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate(s), or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Attorney Docket Number	Priority Claimed?
				YES NO
				<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Application Number(s)	Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Attorney Docket Number
60/372,847 ✓	04/16/2002 ✓	21080PV

10/5/0912

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY for Utility or Design Patent Application

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C 120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. Parent Application or PCT Parent Application Number	Parent Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Parent Patent Number (if applicable)

Additional U.S. or PCT international application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint, respectively and individually, as my attorney(s) or agent(s) with full power of substitution and revocation, the following registered practitioner(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Customer Number

OR

Registered practitioner(s) name/registration number listed below

Name	Registration Number	Name	Registration Number
Sheldon O. Heber	<u>38,179</u>	Jack L. Tribble	<u>32,633</u>

2- Direct all correspondence to: Customer Number 000210

Name	<u>Sheldon O. Heber</u>				
Address	<u>Merck & Co., Inc. - Patent Department</u>				
Address	<u>P.O. Box 2000, RY60-30</u>				
City	<u>Rahway</u>	State	<u>NJ</u>	ZIP	<u>07065-0907</u>
Country	<u>USA</u>	Telephone	<u>(732)594-1958</u>	Fax	<u>(732)594-4720</u>

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Name of Sole or First Inventor:	<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor			
Given Name (first and middle [if any])	Family Name or Surname			
<u>Osvaldo A.</u>	<u>Flores</u>			
Inventor's Signature	<u>O. Flores</u>	Date	<u>21 November 2003</u>	
Residence: City	<u>North Wales</u>	State	<u>PA</u>	Country <u>USA</u> Citizenship <u>CL ✓</u>
Post Office Address	<u>Merck & Co., Inc., P.O. Box 2000</u>			
City	Rahway	State	<u>NJ</u>	ZIP <u>07065-0907</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional inventors are being named on the _____ supplemental Additional Inventors(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto.				

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

10/510912
ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S)
Supplemental Sheet

Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor						
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname						
Jay		Grobler						
Inventor's Signature						Date		
Residence: City	Gwynedd	PA	State	PA	Country	USA	Citizenship	US <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Post Office Address	Merck & Co., Inc., P.O. Box 2000							
City	Rahway		State	NJ	ZIP	07065-0907		
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor						
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname						
Edward M.		Murray						
Inventor's Signature						Date		
Residence: City	Limerick	PA	State	PA	Country	USA	Citizenship	US <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Post Office Address	Merck & Co., Inc., P.O. Box 2000							
City	Rahway		State	NJ	ZIP	07065-0907		
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor						
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname						
Paul D.		Zuck						
Inventor's Signature						Date		
Residence: City	Trenton	NJ	State	NJ	Country	USA	Citizenship	US <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Post Office Address	Merck & Co., Inc., P.O. Box 2000							
City	Rahway		State	NJ	ZIP	07065-0907		
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor						
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname						
Inventor's Signature						Date		
Residence: City			State		Country		Citizenship	
Post Office Address	Merck & Co., Inc., P.O. Box 2000							
City	Rahway		State	NJ	ZIP	07065-0907		